IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hiroaki ITO et al.

Title: A PREVENTIVE OR THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE COMPRISING IL-6

ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Appl. No.: 10/677,227

Filing Date: 10/3/2003

Examiner: Prema Maria MERTZ

Art Unit: 1646

Confirmation No.: 8597

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated July 25, 2008. This Amendment and Reply accompanies a Request for Continued Examination and fulfills the requirement for a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

A Petition for Extension of Time, and the required fees, are enclosed to make the response timely.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: